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8 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
THOMAS WEISEL PARTNERS LLC and
9 THOMAS WEISEL INTERNATIONAL
PRIVATE LIMITED
10

11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
12 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
13 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
14

15 THOMAS WEISEL PARTNERS LLC, a
Delaware limited liability company, and
16 THOMAS WEISEL INTERNATIONAL
PRIVATE LIMITED, an Indian company,
17

18 Plaintiffs,

19 v.

20 BNP PARIBAS, a French corporation, BNP
PARIBAS SECURITIES (ASIA) LIMITED,
21 a Hong Kong company, and PRAVEEN
CHAKRAVARTY, an individual,
22

23 Defendants.
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No. C-07-6198 MHP

Action Filed: December 6, 2007

DECLARATION OF DHEERAJ SONI
IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS'
CONSOLIDATED OPPOSITION TO
DEFENDANTS' MOTIONS TO
DISMISS THE FIRST AMENDED
COMPLAINT

Date: August 18, 2008
Time: 2:00p.m.
Place: Courtroom 15
Judge: Hon. Marilyn Hall Patel

1 I, Dheeraj Soni, declare:

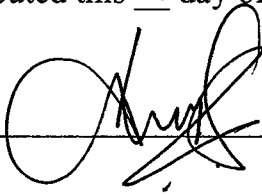
2 1. I am a Vice President working in IT department employed by Thomas Weisel
3 Partners Group. I have been employed in that position since December 2004. I am familiar
4 with the IT infrastructure of Thomas Weisel Partners LLC ("TWP LLC") and TWP LLC's
5 Indian subsidiary Thomas Weisel International Private Limited ("TWIPL"). I was involved
6 in the development of the software required for generating content for Discovery Research
7 from the very beginning of the project. I also provided support and business knowledge to
8 the software development team in order to keep the product up and running until it was
9 decommissioned.

10 2. There is substantial overlap between TWP LLC and TWIPL's IT systems.
11 TWIPL has no separate IT department; TWIPL's one resident IT person in Mumbai reports
12 to TWP LLC personnel in San Francisco. The Discovery Research website was maintained
13 and hosted by TWP LLC in San Francisco. Although a significant portion of information
14 pertaining to Discovery Research resided in the first instance on laptops and a server in
15 Mumbai—which TWP LLC purchased for TWIPL's use—that information, and additional
16 information, was also kept in San Francisco. The Mumbai server was networked into the
17 TWP LLC system and was backed up daily to TWP LLC servers in San Francisco and/or
18 New York. Also, emails and internet messages generated by Discovery Research personnel
19 in Mumbai were captured and archived by TWP LLC compliance software in San Francisco.
20 Discovery Research employees also had access through the TWP LLC network to a drive on
21 TWP LLC's San Francisco server with confidential information about both TWIPL and
22 Discovery Research. In addition, the software that was used by TWIPL to generate research
23 content was maintained and enhanced by a team of consultants engaged by TWP LLC with
24 support from developers in the San Francisco office.

1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that
2 the foregoing is true and correct.

3 Executed this 24 day of June 2008 at San Francisco, California

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HOWARD
RICE
NEMIROVSKI
CANADY
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& RABKIN
LLP Professional Corporation